



CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS

August 18, 2008

Representative Tom Reynolds, Representative Vincent Candelora and Mark Paquette
Co Chairs
Sub-Committee on Regionalism
Smart Growth Task Force

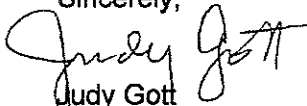
Gentlemen:

At the August 14, 2008 meeting of CARPO a unanimous endorsement was passed as follows:
CARPO appreciates the recent legislative action taken to increase SFY 2007-08 funding for Regional Planning Organizations (RPOs) within the budget of the Office of Policy and Management. The development of partnerships with additional state agencies would further allow RPOs to perform important work of statewide and regional interest related to matters such as housing, economic development, and the environment through annual work program contracts. Creation of dedicated line items in the budgets of partnering agencies for the purpose of providing funds to RPOs would provide the financial support and staffing necessary to perform these expanded functions while allowing RPOs to continue to focus on their mandated transportation responsibilities. Therefore we would respectfully request you include the following in your recommendations to the legislature.

1. Provide funding for the Regional Performance Incentive Program established by the Legislature which was not funded in the FY07-08 session;
2. Create a dedicated line item in the budget of the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) for the purpose of funding RPOs participating in initiatives related to housing and economic development;
3. Create a dedicated line item in the budget of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for the purpose of funding RPOs participating in initiatives related to environmental matters.

Please include this information as testimony from CARPO at your September 4, 2008 Shareholders Forum. CARPO Vice Chairman Carl Stephani (Central CT RPA) will represent the organization at the forum.

Sincerely,


Judy Gott
Chairman CARPO

CC: Carl Stephani